(d) and (e) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is taking the following two measures :—

(i) *Short term measures* :—Government have decided to issue permits to the private bus operators to increase the bus operation in Delhi.

(ii) *Long term measures* :—To meet the commuters demand in the year 2001 and beyond there is a proposal to establish an Integrated Multi Modal Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi.

Surchage imposed on Shippers

374. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exports through Calcutta Port have been badly affected by the container congestion surcharge levied by Shipping lines on shippers;

(b) if so, the reasons of imposing surcharge;

(c) whether such a step is affecting adversely our exports; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve exports through various Ports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. The container traffic at Calcutta Dock System has increased by about 27% during 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92.

(b) During December, 1992, due to overall disturbances in the country, imposition of curfew in dock area, bunching of ships and inability of the transporters to supply trucks, average working time of container vessels in Calcutta Dock System had increased. Due to delayed turnround of ships and accumulation of laden and empty containers, some of the Shipping companies decided to impose congestion surcharge.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Road accidents in the Country

375. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN :

SHRI IQBAL SINGH :

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has highest number of road mishaps; if so, the details of state-wise figures during the last three years indicating deaths and injuries on the roads under control of Central Government;

(b) whether Government propose to bring about stricter-licencing and licence renewal systems on uniform basis; and

(c) what are the plans of the Government to eliminate accident spots on National Highways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. However, the details of State-wise figures of road accidents, persons killed and injured on the National Highways, which are directly under the control of Central Government, during 1989—91 is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXVII, Annexure No. 8].

(b) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the rules framed thereunder provide for *strict tests for issue of licenses*. The State Governments have been requested, from time to time, to urge upon the RTOs/ Licensing authorities the need for strict test for issue of driving licences.

(c) Necessary geometrical improvement as well as widening of National Highways to eliminate the accident spots on National Highways are being taken.

Sinking of Indian Freighter Vishwa Mohini

376. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in Hindustan Times dated the 14th April, 1993 that Indian Freighter Vishwa Mohini of Shipping Corporation of India sank of the north-west coast of Spain with 30 people being feared killed on 8th April, 1993 when the 10,000 tonne freighter was on its way to Bombay due to rough weather;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to rescue the persons in the freighter alongwith the compensation proposed to be paid to the relatives of those feared killed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per international obligations, the Spanish authorities launched search and rescue operations and as a result picked up 16 survivors of whom one succumbed, and 11 bodies. However, the remaining 21 personnel are still missing and feared dead. In consonance with the bipartite agreement between Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) and respective Unions, the quantum of compensation varies from Rs. 5,50,000/- to Rs. 11,69,000/- for officers, Rs. 2,08,718/- to Rs. 3,22,910 for crew and Rs. 4,25,000/- for petty officers.

अंतर्राज्यीय जलमार्गों का विकास

377. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या **जल भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार बढ़ते यातायात की समस्या को हल करने के लिए अंतर्राज्यीय जलमार्गों का विकास करने की कोई योजना बना रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश के किन-किन जलमार्गों का परिवहन प्रयोजनों के लिए प्रयोग किया जा रहा है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि जलमार्गों से माल और यात्रियों का परिवहन अपेक्षाकृत कम खर्चीला होने का अनुमान है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्या क्या है और सन् 2,000 ईसवी तक और कौन कौन से जलमार्ग विकसित करने की योजना है?

जल भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्र सरकार राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों के विकास के लिए जिम्मेदार है, जिनमें से कुछ तो एक से अधिक राज्यों से गुजरते हैं। केन्द्र सरकार/भारतीय अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण निम्नलिखित राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों का विकास कर रही है :—

(1) गंगा-भागीरथी-हुगली नदी प्रणाली (1620 कि. मी.) जो उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल को इलाहाबाद से हल्दिया तक आपस में जोड़ती है।

(2) सदिया से धुबरी (891 कि. मी.) तक ब्रह्मपुत्र जो केवल असम राज्य में है।

(3) केरल राज्य के भीतर, पश्चिम तटीय नहर (205 कि. मी.)।

(ग) और (घ) डल्क और खरब न होने वाले मार्गों की ढुलाई जलमार्गों से करने पर अपेक्षाकृत कम व्यय होता है। ऐसा माना जाता है कि एक एच पी से सड़क पर 150 कि. ग्रा., रेल द्वारा 500 कि. ग्रा. और जलमार्ग द्वारा 4000 कि. ग्रा. सामान ढोया जा सकता है। फिलहाल, आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में किसी नए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग की घोषणा करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Construction of Bridge on River Jia-Bharali near Tezpur in Assam

378. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the propoed bridge across the river Jia-Bharali at Chowkighat near Tezpur Assam;